GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1905
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
SHARING OF SATELLITE DATA WITH SAARC COUNTRIES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has agreed to share the data obtained through satellite with other SAARC member countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the countries with which such arrangements have been made;

(c) whether the modalities have been worked out in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the SAARC countries are likely to be benefited as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has been sharing the data obtained from the Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) Satellites in the SAARC region, in the event of certain major natural disasters. Indian Space Research Organisation, as a member of the International Co-operation mechanism among space agencies for supporting disaster management, has provided data from IRS satellites to Sri Lanka for the tsunami affected areas; and to the SIDR cyclone affected areas in Bangladesh. Data from IRS satellites is also utilized by Nepal and Maldives.

(c)&(d) No specific modalities have been worked out with SAARC countries.

(e) Timely information about damage due to natural disasters will help SAARC countries in taking up relief and rehabilitation measures.